



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

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## Mexico

### Grain and Feed

## Mexico Announces a Corn Import TRQ from WTO Member Countries

## 2007

**Approved by:**

Suzanne Heinen

U.S. Embassy Mexico City

**Prepared by:**

Benjamin Juarez

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**Report Highlights:**

On January 23, 2007, Mexico's Secretariat of Economy (SE) announced that it will allow a total of 1.3 million metric tons of corn to be imported from Most Favored Nations (MFN). Of this total amount, 450,000 MT will be white corn and 850,000 MT will be yellow corn. The SE, through direct allocations to importers and industry, will administer this "unilateral" import quota. The SE announcement also included the administration procedures for importers.

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Includes PSD Changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
Mexico [MX1]  
[MX]

**Introduction:** This report summarizes an announcement of Mexico's Secretariat of Economy (SE) published in Mexico's "*Diario Oficial*" (Federal Register) on January 23, 2007.

**Disclaimer:** This summary is based on a *cursory* review of the subject announcement and therefore should not, under any circumstances, be viewed as a definitive reading of the regulation in question, or of its implications for U.S. agricultural export trade interests. In the event of a discrepancy or discrepancies between this summary and the complete regulation or announcement as published in Spanish, the latter shall prevail.

**Title:** Notice to announce the extraordinary quotas to import corn in the year 2007.

### Important Dates

1. **Publication Date:** January 23, 2007
2. **Implementation Date:** January 24, 2007
3. **Validity Period:** Up to May 31, 2007

**Products Affected:** Corn, except for sowing.

**Agency in Charge:** The Secretariat of Economy (SE)

**FAS/Mexico's Executive Summary:** On January 23, 2007, the Secretariat of Economy (SE) announced a 1.3 MMT unilateral tariff rate quota (TRQ) for corn, in accordance with the country's WTO commitments. This announcement recognizes that domestic white corn availability in Mexico is insufficient to meet the demands of domestic tortilla makers. The TRQ will be in effect until May 31, 2007. According to officials from the SE, all countries with MFN status may supply corn under this TRQ at a zero tariff. The unilateral corn import quota will be administered through the allocation of "cupos" (import permits) to importers and industry. Of this total amount, 450,000 MT are allocated for white corn, and 850,000 MT are allocated for yellow corn. 50,000 MT of the white corn allocation are reserved for imports by the public sector through DICONSA (a parastatal company) for the purpose of supplying white corn to Mexico's poorest regions. It should be noted that this "unilateral" TRQ is in addition to the 2007 NAFTA TRQ of 3.672 million metric tons (MMT), which was published on January 1<sup>st</sup> by the SE in Mexico's "*Diario Oficial*".

H.T.S	DESCRIPTION	EXTRAORDINARY UNILATERAL QUOTA (TONS)
1005.90.03	Yellow corn, except for sowing	1,300,000
1005.90.04	White corn except for sowing	

The January 23 announcement names the specific sectors of the corn supply chain that will be eligible to request "cupo" allocations under this extraordinary unilateral TRQ. These sectors include:

1. Government run firms;
2. Corn flour millers;
3. "Nixtamal" (white corn tortilla mix) millers;
4. Livestock sector and animal food companies.

The amount to be allocated by each industry is as follows:

Beneficiaries	EXTRAORDINARY UNILATERAL QUOTA (TONS)
A. Governmental Company - DICONSA – (white corn)	50,000
B. Floury Corn Industry (white corn)	100,000
C. "Nixtamal" Miller Industry (white corn)	300,000
D. Livestock Sector and Animal Feed companies (yellow corn)	850,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,300,000</b>

**For More Information:**

*Fax:* 011-52-55-5080-2130

*Email:* AgMexico@usda.gov

**Internet Connections**

*FAS Mexico Web Site:* We are available at [www.fas-la.com](http://www.fas-la.com) or visit our headquarters' home page at [www.fas.usda.gov](http://www.fas.usda.gov) for a complete selection of FAS' worldwide agricultural reporting.

*Useful Mexican Web Sites:* Mexico's equivalent of the Department of Agriculture (SAGARPA) can be found at [www.sagarpa.gob.mx](http://www.sagarpa.gob.mx) and Mexico's equivalent of the Department of Commerce (SE) can be found at [www.economia.gob.mx](http://www.economia.gob.mx). These websites are mentioned for the readers' convenience but USDA does NOT in any way endorse, guarantee the accuracy of, or necessarily concur with the information contained on the mentioned sites.